

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A content broker ~~hosting-service-module~~ system comprising:
~~a network interface permitting data communication over a network with third party content providers;~~
memory to store a device profile table accessible by a content broker module, the device profile table including a list of media formats that can be played by a subscriber media device; and
a content broker process server including the content broker module, that communicates with the third party content providers via the network interface the content broker module to:
provide to a third party content provider the list of media formats that can be played by the subscriber media device, wherein the list of media formats is retrieved from the memory; and
acquire media content and associated digital rights license keys from the third party content provider.
~~a device profile table including a device type of a media device and at least one type of media that can be played on the media device; and~~
~~a storage device for storing purchased content on behalf of a user.~~
2. (Currently amended) The content broker ~~hosting-service-module~~ system of claim 1, wherein the content broker process server has access to a database maintaining further comprising a media asset table, including, for each of a plurality of media elements, that includes data associated with the acquired media content, the data received from the content broker module, the data including a unique identifier, a title, a category, a media type, a media characteristic, usage rights, a license key, a purchase date, a distributor purchase ID, a distributor unique content ID, and a distributor identifier.

3. (Currently amended) The content broker ~~hosting-service-module~~ system of claim 1, further comprising a single sign-on identity service, ~~capable of maintaining~~ to maintain user accounts and authentication credentials including a password and biometric information ~~to facilitate federation of the sign-on by third party sites.~~

4. (Currently amended) The content broker ~~hosting-service-module~~ system of claim 1, further comprising a web server to:
~~that aggregate~~[[s]] media content titles of media content available from the third party
content provider[[s]] ~~parties;~~ and
provide ~~offers~~ subscriber access to the media content as identified by the media content
titles to the user.

5. (Currently amended) The content broker ~~hosting-service-module~~ system of claim 1, ~~further comprising a wherein the network interface~~ that uses standard web services protocols to communicate with the third party content provider[[s]].

6. (Currently amended) The content broker ~~hosting-service-module~~ system of claim 1, wherein the third party content provider[[s]] uses single sign-on credentials to verify ~~determine~~ the a user's subscription to a hosting service and to initiate requests to obtain ~~user and~~ device profile information.

7. (Currently amended) The content broker ~~hosting-service-module~~ system of claim 6, wherein the content broker module receives media content information, media file content, and rights usage license keys in response to a content purchase request by the user.

8. (Currently amended) A method of distributing content ~~using a hosting service~~, the method comprising:

providing a login to ~~the~~ a hosting service using a single sign-on account, the hosting service supporting browsing of content titles aggregated from one or more content provider web sites;

~~responding in response~~ to a user purchase request for a selected content title~~[[;]]~~,
~~communicating with at least one of the content provider websites to request to~~
~~purchasing purchase a copy of~~ content associated with the selected content title
~~from at least one of the content provider websites;~~

providing user device characteristics of a user device, including a list of media formats compatible with the user device, to the at least one of the content provider websites;

receiving the content in a media format compatible with the user device from the at least one of the content provider websites ~~so that at least one content provider website may determine a media format for delivery;~~

receiving media characteristics including media ~~type~~ format and fidelity, along with the content ~~data~~ and digital rights license keys;

storing the media characteristics in a media asset table at the hosting service; and
optionally sending the content to a requested user device.

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 8, wherein further comprising adapting the content is adaptable with regard to media format, resolution, fidelity, or bit rate to accommodate a second device without reacquiring the content from a content provider website.

10. (Currently amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the hosting service obtains a new license key and notifies the content provider website of receipt of the new license key ~~for billing purposes~~ after adapting the content.

11. (Withdrawn) A method of processing a remote command from a third party site to facilitate direct ordering in conjunction with content broker services, the method comprising:

receiving a request from a third party site inquiring as to the authenticity of a subscriber using a single sign-on identifier to access the third party site;
receiving notification of a purchase request at a content broker site from the third party site;
receiving a request from the third party site regarding device characteristics of a subscriber device;
transmitting device information relating to the device characteristics;
receiving media information including media type, size, license key, and media content;
and
storing the media information in a media asset table.

12. (Withdrawn) The method of processing a remote command of claim 11, wherein the device information includes screen resolution computing capabilities, storage available, and audio capabilities.

13. (Withdrawn) The method of processing a remote command of claim 11, further comprising storing a copy of the media content.

14. (Withdrawn) The method of processing a remote command of claim 11, further comprising sending the media content to a requested device of the subscriber in response to the third party site.

15. (Withdrawn) A method of processing a request from a content service user, the method comprising:

receiving a request from the user to replace a media file;
scanning a media asset table to determine a supplier of the media file;
communicating a purchase date, content identifier, and original license key to the supplier of the media file;
informing the user of charges associated with re-obtaining the media file;
receiving the media file and a new license key from the supplier of the media file; and
updating the media asset table with an updated purchase date, content identifier, usage rights, and the new license key.

16. (Currently amended) A system to provide a content brokerage service, the system comprising:
~~an interface to a distributed computer network, the distributed computer network providing access to a remote content provider;~~
a content broker process server including a content broker module to provide to a subscriber of the content brokerage service access to a remote content provider, and further to provide device profile information associated with a media device of the subscriber to the remote content provider; coupled to the interface;
~~a single sign-on identity service to authenticate a subscriber to a content brokerage service supported by the content broker module; and~~
~~a memory including content asset information and~~ to store the device profile information associated with at least one subscriber to the content brokerage service, the memory further to provide the device profile information to the content broker module.

17. (Currently amended) The system of claim 16, wherein the content broker module is further to facilitate[[s]] a distribution of an updated license key and media content to the at least one subscriber.

18. (Currently amended) The system of claim 17, wherein the content broker module is to issue a request[[s]] to the remote content provider to distribute the updated license key and the media content.

19. (Currently amended) The system of claim 18, wherein the content broker module is to receive[[s]] a request from the ~~at least one~~ subscriber ~~for~~ to distribute the updated license key to the subscriber.

20. (Currently amended) The system of claim 19, wherein ~~the at least one subscriber provides notification to the content brokerage service~~ is to receive notification that an original content file is no longer accessible ~~available for use~~ before the content broker module receives the request for the updated license key.

21. (Currently amended) The system of claim 16, wherein the device profile information includes ~~a first device identification of a first device, a first device type of the first device, and a first supported media type~~ format of for the first media device.

22. (Currently amended) The system of claim ~~[[21]]~~ 16, wherein the device profile information ~~further includes a device characteristic of the first device and~~ a memory address to identify a free memory block ~~suitable~~ to store distributed content data.

23. (Currently amended) The system of claim 16, wherein the memory is further to store content asset information-is within a media asset table, the content asset information including a media-asset-identity, ~~a media-asset title, a media-asset category, an indicator specifying media type~~ format, usage rights, and a license key.

24. (Currently amended) The system of claim 23, wherein the content asset information stored in the media asset table further includes purchase data ~~and a content distributor identity~~.

25. (Currently amended) The system of claim 16, wherein the memory is further to store content asset information-is within a media asset table that includes a plurality of content asset entries, each of the plurality of content asset entries including a content title and a license key.

26. (Currently amended) The system of claim 16, wherein ~~the remote content provider communicates with the content broker module~~ is further to indicate communicate to the remote content provider a content purchase request made on behalf of the ~~at least one subscriber~~.

27-28. (Canceled).

29. (Withdrawn) A method of managing content, the method comprising:
receiving a request for modified content with respect to a first version of content
distributed to a user;
determining a content provider associated with the first version of content;
communicating data to the content provider, the data associated with the distribution of
the first version of content;

communicating a modified content request to the content provider; and
receiving a second version of the content and a second license key associated with use of
the second version of the content.

30. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 29, further comprising retrieving the data from a media asset table to determine the content provider associated with the first version of the content.

31. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 30, further comprising storing data associated with the second version of the content into the media asset table.

32. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 29, wherein the data associated with the distribution of the first version of the content includes a unique content identification and a first license key.

33. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 32, wherein data associated with the distribution of the first version of the content further includes purchase data.

34. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 33, wherein data associated with the second version of the content includes a second purchase date, a second content identifier, and a second license key.

35. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 29, wherein the second version of the content has a different media format than the first version of the content.

36. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 29, further comprising receiving an indication of a fee to be charged by the content provider to provide the second version of the content.

37. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 36, further comprising receiving confirmation from the user to pay the fee to the content provider.

38. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 29, wherein the second version of the content and the second license key are distributed to the user.

39. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 29, wherein the request for modified content is received at a first computer site and wherein the second version of the content is stored at a second computer site associated with the content provider.

40. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 39, wherein the second version of the content is communicated from the second computer site to the first computer site.

41. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 40, wherein the second version of the content is a rights encoded copy of a media file.

42. (Currently amended) A method of managing media content, the method comprising:
authenticating a subscriber to a content brokering site of a computer network;
providing a subscriber selection of content to a remote content provider site;
providing device characteristics of a subscriber media device, including a list of media formats supported by a subscriber media device, the device characteristics communicated from the content brokering site to a remote content provider site;
receiving content site header data ~~relating to~~ including a content title associated with subscriber-selected content and a media type associated with the subscriber selected content from the remote content provider site, wherein the media type comprises at least one of a media file type and a media format type; and
receiving the subscriber-selected media content having a media type compatible with the subscriber media device from the remote content provider site; and
~~receiving an associated license key allowing access to the media content from the remote content provider site.~~

43. (Original) The method of claim 42, further comprising storing the media type in a computer memory.

44. (Currently amended) The method of claim 43, further comprising storing the ~~media~~ content in the computer memory.

45. (Currently amended) The method of claim 42, further comprising distributing the ~~media~~ content to the subscriber media device.

46. (Currently amended) The method of claim 42, wherein authenticating comprises receiving single sign-on credentials are used to perform the step of authenticating from the subscriber.

47. (Currently amended) The method of claim 42, wherein the subscriber device is ~~one of a computer,~~ a set top box, a DVD player, ~~and~~ or an MP3 player.

48. (Currently amended) The method of claim 42, wherein the ~~media file content~~ comprises ~~is selected from at least one of a movie file, [[a]] music file, and~~ or a software program.

49. (Original) The method of claim 42, further comprising authenticating a plurality of subscribers and receiving content requests from each of the plurality of subscribers.

50. (New) The system of claim 21, wherein the device profile information further includes a media device identification of the media device.

51. (New) The system of claim 23, wherein the content asset information further includes a media asset identity, a media asset title, and a media asset category.

52. (New) The system of claim 1, further comprising a storage device to store the acquired media content.